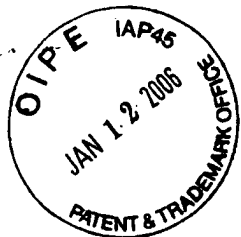


TFW



S&H Form: (2/01)
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Yuji TOCHIO

Application No.: 10/015,616

Group Art Unit: 2828

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STATUS INQUIRY LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests the status of the above-identified patent application, including an indication as to when the next communication can be expected.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 1-12-06

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